

Class XI Session 2025-26

Subject - English Core

Sample Question Paper - 2

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them :

1. This question paper has 15 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains three sections -
Section A : Reading Skills,
Section B : Grammar and Creative Writing Skills
Section C : Literature.
3. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
4. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
5. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A : READING SKILLS (26 marks)

1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[10]

Punctuality is a necessary habit in public affairs of a civilized society. Without it nothing could ever be brought to a conclusion, everything would be in a state of chaos. Only in a sparsely populated rural community is it possible to disregard it. In the ordinary living there can be some tolerance of unpunctuality. The intellectual, who is working on some abstruse problem, has everything coordinated and organized for the matter in hand. He is therefore forgiven, if late for the dinner party. But people are often reproached for unpunctuality when their only fault is cutting fine. It is hard for energetic, quick-minded people to waste time, so they are often tempted to finish a job before setting out to keep an appointment. If no accidents occur on the way, like punctured tires, diversion of traffic, sudden descent of fog, they will be on time. They are often more industrious, useful citizens than those who are never late. The over-punctual can as much be a trial to others as the unpunctual. The guest who arrives half an hour too soon is the greatest nuisance. Some friends of my family had this irritating habit. The only thing to do was to ask them to come half an hour later than the other guests. Then they arrived just when we wanted them. If you are catching a train, it is always better to be comfortably early than even a fraction of a minute too late. Although being early may mean wasting a little time, this will be less than if you miss the train and have to wait an hour or so for the next one. And you avoid the frustration of arriving at the very moment when the train is drawing out of the station and being unable to get on it. An even harder situation is to be on the platform in a good time for a train and still to see it go off without you. Such an experience befell a certain young girl the first time she was travelling alone. She entered the station twenty minutes before the train was due since her parents had impressed upon her that it would be unforgivable to miss



it and cause the friends with whom she was going to stay to meet her. She gave her luggage to a porter and showed him her ticket. To her horror, he said that she was two hours too soon. She felt in her handbag, for the piece of paper on which her father had written down all the details of the journey and gave it to the porter. He agreed that a train did come into the station at the time on the paper and that it did stop, but only to take on water, not passengers. The girl asked to see a timetable, feeling sure that her father could not have made such a mistake. The porter went to fetch one and arrived back with the station master, who produced it with a flourish and pointed out a microscope 'o' beside the time of the arrival of the train at his station. This little 'o' indicated that the train only stopped for water. Just at that moment, the train came into the station. The girl, tears streaming down her face, begged to be allowed to slip into the guard's van. But the station master was adamant: rules could not be broken. And she had to watch that train disappear towards her destination while she was left behind.

- (a) Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option.
It is better to reach the platform before the train arrives because _____.
i. You will have time to relax at the station
ii. It's good to waste some time in life
iii. It can help you avoid frustrations of work
iv. It's better than watching the train leave in front of your eyes
- (b) Comment on the writer's reference to the features of energetic and quick-minded people.
- (c) List the two ways which can hinder a punctual person from reaching a place on time.
(**Clue:** Think about the obstruction one may face)
- (d) Select the option that conveys a similar meaning of 'inflexible', in the passage.
i. Over-punctual
ii. Energetic
iii. Adamant
iv. Abstruse
- (e) Find a word opposite in meaning to **clear/obvious** in the passage:
i. community
ii. abstruse
iii. diversion
iv. industrious
- (f) Reaching early may mean wasting a little time. Based on your understanding of the given passage, justify how reaching early does not always mean wasting time.
- (g) Why is it fair to say that punctuality necessary in a civilized society?
- (h) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following:
Some friends of my family has this irritating habit of arriving half an hour too soon. We can deal with them by _____.
- (i) The over-punctual can be as much a trial to others as the unpunctual
i. He has everything coordinated and organized
ii. He believes that the early bird gets the worm
iii. He is wasting as much time as the unpunctual ones
iv. There is hardly any difference between the unpunctual and over punctual
- (j) Select the most suitable lesson that the above passage conveys.



- i. Punctuality is a necessary habit
- ii. Correct knowledge is necessary
- iii. Punctuality along with correct information is necessary
- iv. All of these

2. **Read the text carefully and answer the questions:**

[8]

The Measles Resurgence

1. Autism spectrum disorders (ASD) are a range of psychological conditions characterised by abnormalities in social interaction, behaviour, interests, and communication. The five forms of ASD include Classical autism, Asperger syndrome, Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Rett syndrome, and Childhood Disintegrative Disorder. Although the number of reported cases of ASD have experienced a dramatic increase in the past 25 years, the majority of doctors agree that this increase is due to changes in diagnostic practices and advances in the understanding of psychiatric health.
 2. While there is no general consensus among medical professionals about the underlying causes of ASD, theories range from genetic inheritance to environmental factors. One of the most controversial theories to have emerged in recent times is the hypothesis that ASD could be caused by the MMR vaccine, which is an immunization against measles, mumps, 1960". The vaccine is a mixture of three live viruses and is administered via injection to children when they are one year old. By the late 1990's, this vaccination had led to the near-eradication of measles in countries that employed widespread inoculation. However, a combination of spurious scientific data and alarmist media attention led to an entirely preventable resurgence in measles cases in the early 21 st century.
 3. The first claims of a connection between the MMR vaccine and autism were made in 1998, when an article in The Lancet a respected British medical journal, reported on eight cases of autism that could possibly be traced back to the administration of an MMR vaccine. The parents of the children in this study contended that the symptoms of autism in their children developed within days of vaccination. During a press conference, Andrew Wakefield, one of the doctors to stop giving combined MMR vaccines, instead advocating for individual inoculations against measles, mumps, and rubella.
 4. Following the publication of this article, Wakefield published several follow-up papers that further questioned the safety of the MMR vaccine. An onslaught of media coverage then began. Parents appeared on television sharing anecdotal evidence linking their child's inoculation to the onset of ASD. The popular press quickly seized upon this story: in 2002, over 1200 articles were written about the link between MMR vaccines and ASD. Less than 30% of these articles mentioned that an overwhelming amount of scientific evidence suggested that these vaccinations were completely safe.
- (a) The purpose of parents appearing on the television sharing anecdotal evidence was _____.
 - (b) Select the option that is true for the two statements given below.
 - (1) According to a study, it is found that the cause behind ASD in children is increasing stress and anxiety at a tender age.
 - (2) The advancement in diagnostic techniques by doctors had proven great to decrease the number of ASD cases.
 - a. (1) is the result of (2).
 - b. (1) is the reason for (2).
 - c. (1) is true and (2) is false
 - d. Both (1) and (2) are false



- (c) State the meaning of the statement "The popular press quickly seized upon this story."
- (d) According to the doctors, the number of reported cases of ASD have experienced a dramatic increase in the past 25 years. It was because of _____.
- (e) Select the option listing what the given sentence refers to.
The symptoms of ASD did NOT include:
(1) abnormalities in social interaction
(2) high fever
(3) bipolar behavior
(4) unusual interests
(5) Abnormal communication
a. (1), (2) and (5)
b. (2) and (3)
c. (4) and (5)
d. (1), (3) and (5) 1
- (f) The MMR vaccine contained three live viruses. (True/false)
- (g) The story of MMR vaccines and ASD relation got attention proving the power of _____.
- (h) Which of the following options suggest that the safety of the vaccines had no great evidence as such?
a. The parents of the children in this study contended that the symptoms of autism in their children developed within days of vaccination.
b. Wakefield published several followup papers that further questioned the safety of the MMR vaccine.
c. Parents appeared on television sharing anecdotal evidence linking their child's inoculation to the onset of ASD.
d. Less than 30% of these articles mentioned that an overwhelming amount of scientific evidence suggested that these vaccinations were completely safe.

3. **Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.**

[8]

Despite all the research, every one of us catches a cold and most of us catch it frequently. Our failure to control one of the commonest of all ailments sometimes seems ridiculous. Medical science regularly practices transplant surgery and has rid whole countries of such killing diseases such as Typhus and the Plague But the problem of the common cold is unusually difficult and much has yet to be done to solve it.

It is known that cold is caused by one of a number of viral infections that affect the lining of the nose and other passages leading to the lungs, but the confusing variety of viruses makes study and remedy very difficult. It was shown in 1960 that many typical colds in adults are caused by one or the other of a family of viruses known as rhinoviruses, yet there still remain many colds for which no virus has as yet been isolated.

There is also the difficulty that because they are so much smaller than the bacteria which cause many other infections, viruses cannot be seen with ordinary microscopes. Nor can they be cultivated easily in the bacteriologist's laboratory, since they only grow within the living cells of animals or plants. An important recent step forward, however, is the development of the technique of tissue culture, in which bits of animal tissue are enabled to go on living and to multiply independently of the body. This has greatly aided virus research and has led to the discovery of a large number of viruses. Their existence had previously been not only unknown but even unsuspected.

The fact that we can catch cold repeatedly creates another difficulty. Usually, a virus strikes only once and leaves the victim immune to further attacks Still we do not gain immunity from cold. Why? It may possibly be due to



the fact that while other viruses get into the bloodstream where antibodies can oppose them, the viruses causing cold attack cells only on the surface or it may be that immunity from one of the many different viruses does not guarantee protection from all the others. It seems, therefore, that we are likely to have to suffer colds sometime yet.

1. On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary-minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it.
2. Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words.

Section B : Grammar (7 Marks)

4. Answer any SEVEN of the following questions: [7]
- (a) We expected about 20 girls but there _____ (be) more girls in that group. (Fill tense correctly) [1]
 - (b) This poem _____ (write) by me when I was seven years old. (Fill tense correctly) [1]
 - (c) The university _____ my brother reads is in Canada. (who/what/which/where) [1]
 - (d) The driver called me _____ I left my bag in the cab. (where/when/whose/which) [1]
 - (e) Babu is faster than any other boy in the class. (use superlative degree) [1]
 - (f) The policeman has arrested the thief. (Passive voice) [1]
 - (g) He/by/to/goes/school/bus. (reorder correctly) [1]
 - (h) was/the/them/house/broken/restored/by. (reorder correctly) [1]

Section - B Creative Writing Skills (16 Marks)

5. You have a 3-bedroom, ground floor flat in a posh locality. You want to sell it off as you are going abroad. Write an advertisement in not more than 50 words to be published in the classified columns of a local daily, giving all the necessary details. Your contact number is: XXX XXX ... [3]

OR

Hotel Lake View, Udaipur, needs young & smart lady receptionists. Write an advertisement to be published in the Situation Vacant column of a local newspaper.

6. Design a poster in not more than 50 words about the need for regular exercise. You may use a slogan(s). [3]

OR

Public taps are always faulty and a lot of water is wasted. Design a poster in not more than 50 words to make people aware of the need of saving water. You are Rohan/Rohini.

7. A recent health check-up in your school revealed that many among your classmates were suffering from weak eyesight. You feel concerned. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly on how to protect your eyesight. Make use of the following clues [5]
- reading in bad light
 - bad posture
 - wrong direction, from which light is coming
 - excessive TV viewing
 - regular washing of eyes
 - eat more green vegetables
 - enough sleep

OR

Holi is a festival of colours. It expresses purity and simple joy. Sometimes we start throwing coloured water and that too on strangers. As the Head Boy / Girl of your school, write a speech in 150 - 200 words that you will deliver in the



8. The government has banned the use of animals in the laboratories for the purpose of dissection. Write a debate in **[5]** 150-200 words either for or against this decision.

Write a debate in 150 - 200 words either for or against the motion: **21st century is an age of greed.**

Section C : Literature (31 Marks)

9. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[3]

I do not understand this child
Though we have lived together now
In the same house for years. I know
Nothing of him, so try to build
Up a relationship from how
He was when small.

- (a) What problem do the given lines highlight?
- a) Communication gap b) Conflict
- c) Generation gap d) Communication and generation gap
- (b) What does the speaker of the given lines want?
- a) His son to talk to him b) To build a new relationship with his son
- c) His son to forgive him d) To forgive his son
- (c) How old is the son when his father rants about his agony to his son?
- a. teenager
- b. grown-up
- c. child
- d. just became adult
- a) Option (d) b) Option (b)
- c) Option (c) d) Option (a)

OR

Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[3]

Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and the bottomless sea,
Upward to heaven, whence, vaguely form'd, altogether changed, and yet the same,

- (a) What does the word **eternal** indicate in the given lines?
- a) A permanency
c) Immortality
- b) A continuation
d) A sequence
- (b) The words **altogether changed, and yet the same** shows that the rain
- a) is same in all forms
c) comes back to its origin same as it had gone
- b) changes it forms and is same in all forms
d) changes it forms
- (c) The word **impalpable** in the given extract can be replaced by

- a) temporary
- b) undecipherable
- c) definable
- d) material

10. **Read the text carefully and answer the questions:**

[3]

The cafe was small, dark and cavernous, with a long metal stove that ran down the middle. The walls and ceiling were wreathed in sheets of multi-coloured plastic, of the striped variety-broad blue, red and white - that is made into stout, voluminous shopping bags sold all over China, and in many other countries of Asia as well as Europe. The cafe had a single window beside which I'd taken up position so that I could see the pages of my notebook. I'd also brought a novel with me to help pass the time.

(a) According to above extract, which of the following activities author used to do at the café?

- a) all of these
- b) have food
- c) write in his notebook
- d) read novel

(b) According to extract, the huge plastic bags are not sold in which of the following region

- a) Africa
- b) Europe
- c) Asia
- d) China

(c) According to extract the café had which of the following attributes

1. it was a small café
2. it had three windows
3. it had a long metal stove
4. its wall were made of plastic sheets
5. Colour of plastic sheet was majorly yellow
6. its ceilings were made of concrete

- a) 1, 3, 4, 6
- b) 3, 4, 5, 6
- c) 2, 3, 4, 6
- d) 1, 2, 4, 5

OR

Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[3]

People said that she had once been young and pretty and had even had a husband, but that was hard to believe. My grandfather's portrait hung above the mantelpiece in the drawing room. He wore a big turban and loose-fitting clothes. His long, white beard covered the best part of his chest and he looked at least a hundred years old.

(a) Who is the author of the above extract?

- a) James Harriot
- b) Kushwant Singh
- c) Gordon Cook
- d) Alan east

(b) Which word in the extract means **picture of face**?

- a) beard
- b) portrait
- c) turban
- d) mantelpiece

(c) Which of the following has not been depicted in the portrait?

- a) clothes
- b) beard
- c) ornaments
- d) turban



11. **Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.** [4]

(a) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: [4]

Inside, a narrow stair led up to a small bedroom, clean but poorly furnished, and lit only by an oil lamp. Here Mrs Morgan's mother, a tall, grey-haired woman of nearly seventy, and the stout, elderly midwife waited beside the patient, watching Andrew's expression as he moved about the room. "Let me make you a cup of tea, Doctor, bach," said the former quickly, after a few moments. Andrew smiled faintly. He saw that the old woman, wise in experience, realised there must be a period of waiting that, she was afraid he would leave the case, saying he would return later. "Don't fret, mother, I'll not run away." Down in the kitchen he drank the tea which she gave him. Overwrought as he was, he knew he could not snatch even an hour's sleep if he went home. He knew, too, that the case here would demand all his attention. A queer lethargy of spirit came upon him. He decided to remain until everything was over.

i. Complete the sentence appropriately.

The author has described the Morgan's place that Andrew saw. It was a _____.

ii. In the given extract, which of the following emotions was NOT displayed in Mrs. Morgan's mother's disposition?

- a. Afraid
- b. Anxious
- c. Worried
- d. Irrate

iii. What trait of the old lady has the author reflected through her words, "Let me make you a cup of tea, Doctor, bach"?

iv. What was Andrew "Overwrought" with? What did he ultimately decide?

(b) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: [4]

Nobody could understand where we ever got money enough to keep us with food in our bellies, not even the old men of the family. Most important of all, though, we were famous for our honesty. We had been famous for our honesty for something like eleven centuries, even when we had been the wealthiest family in what we liked to think was the world. We were proud first, honest next, and after that we believed in right and wrong. None of us would take advantage of anybody in the world, let alone steal.

i. What is the meaning of the expression "Keep us with food in our bellies"?

- A. To remain hungry
- B. To remain thirsty
- C. To remain satiated
- D. To remain perplexed

ii. Which tribe is the narrator describing in the given extract?

iii. What was the tribe/family to which the narrator belonged to was renowned?

iv. There was something that prevented the members of the tribe from engaging in theft. It was _____.

12. **Answer the questions from either (a) or (b) in 40-50 words:** [6]

(a) i. Give reason: Carter had to chisel away the solidified resins to raise the king's remains. [3]



- ii. 'Then sleek as a lizard and alert and abrupt, she enters the thickness'. Explain the given lines. [3]
(The Laburnum Top)
- (b) i. Describe the mental condition of the voyagers on 4 and 5 January. Answer in the context of We are Not Afraid to Die. [3]
- ii. What did the poet realize when he was twelve years? Answer in context of Childhood. [3]
13. **Answer ANY ONE of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words** [3]
- (a) Under what circumstances did the narrator's mother allow their valuable possessions to be carried away? Answer in the context of the **The Address**. [3]
- (b) What was Mrs. Fitzgerald's final advice to Mrs. Annie Pearson after getting back into their original personalities? [3]
14. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.** [6]
- (a) How did Rajendra explain the concept of reality with the example of the movement of an electron? [6]
- (b) **Its silence silences**, writes Shirley Toulson. The loss of her mother has silenced her. Do you think that this attitude of the poet is the right attitude to live life? Why/ Why not? [6]
15. **Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.** [6]
- (a) The king in the poem (The Tale of Melon City) announced execution as the form of justice for the crime that had been committed. Do you think it was the right decision he took irrespective of him being hanged in the name of justice? [6]
- (b) This play (Mothers Day), written in the 1950s, is a humorous and satirical depiction of the status of the mother in the family. [6]
 What are the issues it raises?

Solution

SECTION A : READING SKILLS (26 marks)

1. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

Punctuality is a necessary habit in public affairs of a civilized society. Without it nothing could ever be brought to a conclusion, everything would be in a state of chaos. Only in a sparsely populated rural community is it possible to disregard it. In the ordinary living there can be some tolerance of unpunctuality. The intellectual, who is working on some abstruse problem, has everything coordinated and organized for the matter in hand. He is therefore forgiven, if late for the dinner party. But people are often reproached for unpunctuality when their only fault is cutting fine. It is hard for energetic, quick-minded people to waste time, so they are often tempted to finish a job before setting out to keep an appointment. If no accidents occur on the way, like punctured tires, diversion of traffic, sudden descent of fog, they will be on time. They are often more industrious, useful citizens than those who are never late. The over-punctual can as much be a trial to others as the unpunctual. The guest who arrives half an hour too soon is the greatest nuisance. Some friends of my family had this irritating habit. The only thing to do was to ask them to come half an hour later than the other guests. Then they arrived just when we wanted them. If you are catching a train, it is always better to be comfortably early than even a fraction of a minute too late. Although being early may mean wasting a little time, this will be less than if you miss the train and have to wait an hour or so for the next one. And you avoid the frustration of arriving at the very moment when the train is drawing out of the station and being unable to get on it. An even harder situation is to be on the platform in a good time for a train and still to see it go off without you. Such an experience befell a certain young girl the first time she was travelling alone. She entered the station twenty minutes before the train was due since her parents had impressed upon her that it would be unforgivable to miss it and cause the friends with whom she was going to stay to meet her. She gave her luggage to a porter and showed him her ticket. To her horror, he said that she was two hours too soon. She felt in her handbag, for the piece of paper on which her father had written down all the details of the journey and gave it to the porter. He agreed that a train did come into the station at the time on the paper and that it did stop, but only to take on water, not passengers. The girl asked to see a timetable, feeling sure that her father could not have made such a mistake. The porter went to fetch one and arrived back with the station master, who produced it with a flourish and pointed out a microscope 'o' beside the time of the arrival of the train at his station. This little 'o' indicated that the train only stopped for water. Just at that moment, the train came into the station. The girl, tears streaming down her face, begged to be allowed to slip into the guard's van. But the station master was adamant: rules could not be broken. And she had to watch that train disappear towards her destination while she was left behind.

(i) (iv) It's better than watching the train leave in front of your eyes

- (ii) ■ Energetic, quick-minded people do not waste time.
■ They are often tempted to finish a job before setting out to keep an appointment.
■ If no accidents occur on the way, like punctured tires, diversion of traffic, sudden descent of fog, they will be on time. (any one)

(iii) Accidents that occur on the way, like

- a. punctured tires,
b. diversion of traffic,
c. sudden descent of fog, may obstruct a punctual person from being on time. (any two)

(iv) (iii) adamant

(v) (ii) abstruse

(vi) Although being early may mean wasting a little time, this will be less than if you miss the train and have to wait an hour or so for the next one.

(vii) To avoid chaos in the society and to reach conclusion.

(viii) Asking them to come half an hour later than the other guests.

(ix) (iii) He is wasting as much time as the unpunctual ones

(x) (iii) Punctuality along with correct information is necessary

2. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

The Measles Resurgence

1. Autism spectrum disorders (ASD) are a range of psychological conditions characterised by abnormalities in social interaction, behaviour, interests, and communication. The five forms of ASD include Classical autism, Asperger syndrome, Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Rett syndrome, and Childhood Disintegrative Disorder. Although the number of reported cases of



ASD have experienced a dramatic increase in the past 25 years, the majority of doctors agree that this increase is due to changes in diagnostic practices and advances in the understanding of psychiatric health.

2. While there is no general consensus among medical professionals about the underlying causes of ASD, theories range from genetic inheritance to environmental factors. One of the most controversial theories to have emerged in recent times is the hypothesis that ASD could be caused by the MMR vaccine, which is an immunization against measles, mumps, 1960". The vaccine is a mixture of three live viruses and is administered via injection to children when they are one year old. By the late 1990's, this vaccination had led to the near-eradication of measles in countries that employed widespread inoculation. However, a combination of spurious scientific data and alarmist media attention led to an entirely preventable resurgence in measles cases in the early 21 st century.
3. The first claims of a connection between the MMR vaccine and autism were made in 1998, when an article in The Lancet a respected British medical journal, reported on eight cases of autism that could possibly be traced back to the administration of an MMR vaccine. The parents of the children in this study contended that the symptoms of autism in their children developed within days of vaccination. During a press conference, Andrew Wakefield, one of the doctors to stop giving combined MMR vaccines, instead advocating for individual inoculations against measles, mumps, and rubella.
4. Following the publication of this article, Wakefield published several follow-up papers that further questioned the safety of the MMR vaccine. An onslaught of media coverage then began. Parents appeared on television sharing anecdotal evidence linking their child's inoculation to the onset of ASD. The popular press quickly seized upon this story: in 2002, over 1200 articles were written about the link between MMR vaccines and ASD. Less than 30% of these articles mentioned that an overwhelming amount of scientific evidence suggested that these vaccinations were completely safe.

(i) to support the claim of a connection between the MMR vaccine and autism

(ii) (d) Both (1) and (2) are false

It is clearly given in the passage that the medical professionals have 'not' found the underlying causes of ASD. And due to changes in diagnostic practices and advances in the understanding of psychiatric health, there had been a big 'increase' in the number of cases of ASD. So, both (1) and (2) are false. Hence, (d) is the right answer.

(iii) The statement conveys that the famous media publishers covered the story in all aspects.

(iv) the changes in diagnostic practices and advances in the understanding of psychiatric health.

(v) (b) (2) and (3)

While symptoms like (1), (4) and (5) are stated in the passage, (2) high fever and (3) bipolar behavior are nowhere mentioned in the passage. Hence, (b) is the right answer.

(vi) True

It is given in the passage that 'The vaccine was a mixture of three live viruses and is administered via injection to children when they are one year old.' Hence, it is true.

(vii) media

(viii) It is mentioned that only 30% of the published articles had an overwhelming amount of scientific evidence that suggested that these vaccinations were completely safe. Whereas this means that 70% supported the claim of vaccines being unsafe. Hence, (d) is the right answer.

3. Title: Cold -The Viral Infection

Notes

I. Fighting common cold

- i. most common almt
- ii. typhus & plague erd
- iii. common cold diff to solve

II. Causes of cold

- i. viral inf
- ii. viruses — rhinoviruses
- iii. affect lining of nose

III. Research work

- i. tcq of tissue culture dev
- ii. discovery of large no of viruses
- iii. previously not known

IV. Why repeated attacks

- i. cold viruses attack surface cells



- ii. immunity not guaranteed
- iii. cold persists

◦ **Key to Abbreviations**

- almt - ailment
- diff - difficult
- tcq - technique
- no - number
- erd - eradicated
- inf - infection
- dev - development

Summary:-

Medical science has got rid of most of the deadly diseases like plague or typhus but one, which is common cold, which happens so frequently. Cold is a common ailment which is a cause of difficulty for scientists. It is caused by infection of the lining of the nose and other passages by a number of different viruses, thus, making it difficult to prescribe a common remedy. Immunity through vaccination cannot be given against repeated virus attacks, as it does not affect the bloodstream. The development of the technique of tissue culture, in which bits of animal tissue are enabled to go on living and to multiply independently of the body. We get repeated attacks of cold because the virus infects the surface cells and immunity from one virus does not guarantee protection from others.

Section B : Grammar (7 Marks)

4. Answer any SEVEN of the following questions:

- (i) were
- (ii) is written
- (iii) where
- (iv) when
- (v) Babu is the fastest boy in the class.
- (vi) The thief has been arrested by the policeman.
- (vii) He goes to school by bus.
- (viii) The broken house was restored by them.

Section - B Creative Writing Skills (16 Marks)

FLAT FOR SALE

Available for sale 3BHK flat with 3 bedrooms, ground floor in a posh locality. The flat has the facility of car parking. Also, the flat is situated in a green area with scenic beauty at Gopal Nagar. For further details, please contact the undersigned.

Name: Amit Shah

Contact: XXXXXXXXXXXX.

OR

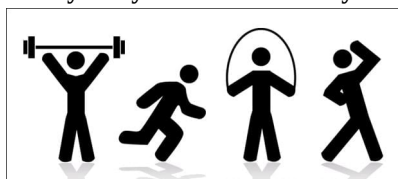
SITUATION VACANT

Wanted convent educated, smart and young lady in the age group of 21-25 years with pleasing personality and fluency in communication to work as a receptionist for a reputed five-star hotel. Knowledge of a foreign language and English will be preferred. Handsome salary and Perks. Apply up to 30th July 2019 with complete bio-data and recent passport size photographs to a personal manager, Hotel Lake View, Udaipur.

**TAKE
REGULAR EXERCISE
AND**

Become Active! Get Fit For Life! Enjoy Mental Alertness!

Healthy Body Shelters a Healthy Mind



Exercising can be fun-choose anyone:

- Swimming



- Jogging
- Aerobics
- Dancing
- Working out at the Gym

Why should one exercise regularly?

- Weight loss
- strong muscles and bones
- makes you feel happier
- increases energy levels
- reduces the risk of chronic disease
- gives glowing skin
- improves brain health and memory
- gives relaxation and improves sleep quality

Run and have fun

Live Longer

Sport a healthy heart

Give your heart a healthy resort

Issued by

6. Sports Authority of India

OR

Save The Earth, Do Your Part, Be Water Smart

MAKE EVERY DROP COUNT

A dripping faucet can waste upto 5000 litres of water per year



DO ONE THING EACH DAY

THAT WILL SAVE WATER

Even if savings are small, every drop counts

Your small acts can bring a big difference

Make people aware about water conservation

Water is a precious resource do not waste it

CONSERVE WATER, NOURISH LIFE

Issued in Public Interest by Budding Readers

7.

Protecting Our Eyesight

Good morning everyone! Honourable Principal Sir, respected teachers and all my dear friends! I, XYZ, have come before you all to remind you about the importance of protecting our eyesight.

Our eyes are two of the most sensitive parts of our body, and we should never take our eyes for granted. But unfortunately, most of us don't take care of our eyesight unless something drastic happens.

A recent health check-up in our school has revealed that many of our fellow students are suffering from weak eyesight. Reading in bad light, bad posture, wrong direction from which light is coming, excessive TV/computer viewing etc. are some of the factors that can be attributed to it. It is high time we understand the imperative need for protecting our eyes. It starts with the food on our plate. Eating a well-balanced diet and including more green vegetables in our diet is very essential.

To improve our vision is a matter of changing the way we see and use our eyes i.e. bringing a change in our habits. We must make sure never to read in bad light and also that we do not sit in the wrong direction from the source of light. One must avoid watching television excessively, and not spend a long time in front of the computer screen. Regular washing of eyes with filtered water keeps them fresh. Besides, enough sleep and some simple exercises of the eyes are also of much help. By following these simple



but necessary steps, we can protect our eyesight and thus show some respect for the wonderful gift of sight which God has bestowed upon us.

Thank you!

OR

Holi—The Festival of Colours!

Good morning everyone. Respected Principal Sir, honourable teachers and all my dear friends! Today, I am going to speak about Holi, the festival of colours, which is going to be celebrated next week nationwide.

Holi brings a lot of joy and feelings of friendship amongst us. The story of how this festival started is quite interesting.

Prahlad was asked by his father Hiranyakashyap (a demon king) to worship him instead of worshipping the God; but Prahlad continued to worship God. His father, in his haughtiness, then asked Holika (Hiranyakashyap's sister) to take Prahlad in her lap and sit in the fire. However, Holika was burnt in that fire and Prahlad was saved by the grace of God. As Holika was the incarnation of evil, so the people started celebrating Holi to exhibit the victory of good over evil. They used colours to celebrate their emotions and ever since then, colours symbolised the festival of Holi.

Initially, people used herbal gulal and tesu flower's water to soak each other in colours. But today, there are a number of chemical colours available in the market which harm our skins. Also, people these days have started celebrating the festival in a rough manner, taking away its purity and purpose. We shouldn't throw colours or water balloons on strangers. We all should use only natural colours or herbal gulal for playing Holi. Most importantly, we should stay away from harmful chemical colours and shouldn't waste water at all.

I hope we all enjoy Holi as a festival of sheer joy. Happy Holi!

Thank you!

8.

For the Motion

Honourable judges, my worthy opponents and dear students,

Today, I Meena of class XII, will speak in favour of the motion, 'Government's ban on dissection of animals in laboratories is justified.'

I am sure many of you have pets in your homes. The fact that animals too have feelings, just as human beings do, is not unknown to anyone.

Do they not respond to feelings of affection or even when they are reprimanded for some wrong action on their part? Why then would someone want to kill animals without any fault of theirs? My opponents will say that it is required for the purpose of research. Well, we are living in the most technologically-advanced century ever; thus, the research can be carried out by using modern technology and without dissecting animals.

My honourable opponents will surely point out that this is a part of education, especially for the science students to practically observe what they have been taught in theory. But in my opinion, this can be done by providing models of suitable cross-sections of the insides of the animals. Such models can be made by commercial organisations for sale to educational institutions. This will also prevent repetition of such killing and dissection in future. Hence, it is my earnest appeal to ban the use of animals in laboratories for the purpose of dissection. Thank you!

Against the Motion

Honourable judges, my worthy opponents and dear students,

Today, I Meena of class XII, will express my views against the motion, 'Government's ban on dissection of animals in laboratories is justified.'

Students need to be provided a practical experience for the theoretical knowledge gained by them through books. And the dissection of animals in the school laboratories is merely a part of the same. The students procure an opportunity to actually put their learning into practice. It should not be looked at as an unjust practice, because such an activity is meant to develop the student's knowledge of the elements and functions of the living beings. The students don't kill and sell the animals or do any other illegal thing. They are not taught anything immoral. They simply get a practical experience regarding what they learn in class. The dissection of animals has a scientific purpose. It is a mode of hands-on education for students so that they can learn beyond the pages of the textbook and actually look at what they are taught. We should give more credit to the sensitivity and intelligence of our students and not believe that a dissection class will make them more prone to animal violence.

Students should be taught the value of animal life by making them understand how an animal has the same kind of organs as human beings do and perform similar functions. The governing philosophy behind teaching students to dissect animals should be that life, whether human or animal, is the same; each living being is tied to the other by its inner similarity.

Thus, a ban on dissection of animals in school laboratories would not be the best course of action in such a case. I hope my views on this topic were substantial enough to throw a light on this topic.

Thank you!



OR

For the Motion: *21st Century is an Age of Greed*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I stand before you to argue in favour of the motion that the "21st century is an age of greed." The relentless pursuit of wealth and material possessions has become a defining characteristic of our times.

Firstly, the widening gap between the rich and the poor is a stark indicator of this greed. The top 1% of the population controls a disproportionate share of global wealth, while millions struggle to meet basic needs. This inequality is fueled by a culture that glorifies wealth and success at any cost.

Secondly, environmental degradation is a direct consequence of our insatiable greed. The exploitation of natural resources for profit has led to deforestation, pollution, and climate change, threatening the very survival of our planet.

Moreover, the rise of consumerism has led to a throwaway culture, where people constantly seek the latest gadgets and fashion trends, often at the expense of ethical considerations and sustainability.

In conclusion, the 21st century is indeed an age of greed, driven by an unquenchable desire for more, often at the expense of social equity and environmental health.

Thank you.

Against the Motion: *21st Century is an Age of Greed*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I stand before you to argue against the motion that "21st century is an age of greed." While greed exists, it is not the defining trait of our era.

Firstly, the 21st century has seen unprecedented efforts towards social justice and environmental sustainability. Movements advocating for equality, climate action, and corporate responsibility have gained significant traction, challenging the notion that greed dominates our times.

Secondly, technological advancements have enabled greater access to information and education, empowering individuals to make informed and ethical choices. This has led to a rise in conscious consumerism, where people prioritize sustainability and ethical practices over mere material gain.

Moreover, the growth of social enterprises and non-profit organizations reflects a shift towards a more compassionate and equitable society. These entities focus on creating positive social impact rather than maximizing profits.

In conclusion, while greed is present, the 21st century is also marked by significant strides towards a more just and sustainable world. It is an era of both challenges and opportunities for positive change.

Thank you.

Section C : Literature (31 Marks)

9. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

I do not understand this child
Though we have lived together now
In the same house for years. I know
Nothing of him, so try to build
Up a relationship from how
He was when small.

- (i) **(d)** Communication and generation gap

Explanation:

Communication and generation gap

- (ii) **(b)** To build a new relationship with his son

Explanation:

To build a new relationship with his son

- (iii) **(b)** Option (b)

Explanation:

Option (b)

OR

Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and the bottomless sea,
Upward to heaven, whence, vaguely form'd, altogether changed, and yet the same,



- (i) **(b)** A continuation

Explanation:

A continuation

- (ii) **(b)** changes it forms and is same in all forms

Explanation:

changes it forms and is same in all forms.

- (iii) **(b)** undescrivable

Explanation:

undescrivable

10. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

The cafe was small, dark and cavernous, with a long metal stove that ran down the middle. The walls and ceiling were wreathed in sheets of multi-coloured plastic, of the striped variety-broad blue, red and white - that is made into stout, voluminous shopping bags sold all over China, and in many other countries of Asia as well as Europe. The cafe had a single window beside which I'd taken up position so that I could see the pages of my notebook. I'd also brought a novel with me to help pass the time.

- (i) **(a)** all of these

Explanation:

all of these

- (ii) **(a)** Africa

Explanation:

Africa

- (iii) **(a)** 1, 3, 4, 6

Explanation:

1, 3, 4, 6

OR

Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

People said that she had once been young and pretty and had even had a husband, but that was hard to believe. My grandfather's portrait hung above the mantelpiece in the drawing room. He wore a big turban and loose-fitting clothes. His long, white beard covered the best part of his chest and he looked at least a hundred years old.

- (i) **(b)** Kushwant Singh

Explanation:

Kushwant Singh

- (ii) **(b)** portrait

Explanation:

portrait

- (iii) **(c)** ornaments

Explanation:

ornaments

11. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.

- (i) i. ... a poorly furnished small and clean bedroom, up to a narrow stair. The room was lit only by an oil lamp.

ii. (d) Irate

iii. The author described Mrs Morgan's mother as a wise and experienced woman. She offered Andrew tea that he couldn't leave because she anticipated that it was not an ordeal that was going to span over a short time, and it was thus in the best interest to make his stay as comfortable as possible. She was also closely observing him.

iv. Andrew was mentally and physically exhausted (overwrought) because of the unpleasant meeting with Christine. He knew that if he went home, he could steal an hour's sleep, but he decided to stay at the place till his duty was fulfilled.

- (ii) i. (C) to remain satiated

ii. The narrator is describing the Garoghlanian family or tribe in the given extract.

iii. The tribe/family to which the narrator belonged was renowned for its honesty. They had a long-standing reputation for honesty that spanned eleven centuries, even during periods of wealth and poverty.

- iv. The main factor that prevented any member of the tribe from engaging in theft was **their strong sense of pride and their reputation for honesty**. They placed great importance on their pride, honesty, and belief in right and wrong, and this moral code prevented them from even considering theft as an option.

12. Answer the questions from either (a) or (b) in 40-50 words:

- (i) i. The solidified resins had cemented King Tut's mummy to the bottom of his coffin. There was no way to remove the mummy from the coffin, so, Howard Carter had to chisel away the solidified resins.
ii. The lizard is a quick-moving animal. It is also very alert and its movements are jerky and abrupt. In the same manner, the goldfinch enters in the thickness of the branches of the tree and feeds her young ones.
- (ii) i. On January 4 and 5, the voyagers felt relieved as after the continuous pumping for 36 hours the water had nearly been drained out. They had their first meal in almost two days. However, their respite was short-lived. They faced dangerous situation on January 5 as the sea got worse during the night. Fear of death loomed large. They were under a great mental stress.
ii. At the age of twelve, the poet learnt that Hell and Heaven were not real but mere stories and that science didn't support the existence of Hell and heaven.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words

- (i) The narrator's family was Jewish. During the war, Mrs. S was afraid that either they may have to leave suddenly or be imprisoned. In either case, their most valuable possessions would be lost. So, she was happy when Mrs. Dorling (obviously not a Jew) suggested that she would safely keep their possessions. She believed that Mrs. Dorling would return all her possessions after the war. So, she allowed Mrs. Dorling to gradually take away the possessions.
- (ii) Mrs. Fitzgerald advised Annie to be firm. She told her not to explain or apologize at all. Mrs. Fitzgerald also advised her to be strict with her children and husband and not allow them to take her for granted.

14. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.

- (i) Rajendra Deshpande tried to rationalise the professor's experience on the basis of two scientific theories. It was true that Gangadhar Pant had passed through a strange catastrophic experience. The juncture at which Vishwas Rao was killed in the Battle of Panipat proved to be the turning point. The Maratha soldiers lost their morale and fighting spirit. They lost the battle.
- Rajendra then moved to his second point about reality. Reality is not exactly what we experience directly with our senses. Reality can have other manifestations also. For example, the electron does not follow the laws of science when it moves. It is called the lack of determinism in quantum theory. The electron can be found in different places, and each is real. It happens by making a transition. The professor had also experienced two worlds-one that was present, the other that might have been.
- (ii) There is no doubt that Shirley Toulson has given a very touching tribute to her mother by remembering her through her verses. It is apparent that she is very much nostalgic and is grieving at the loss of her mother. Though she says that over the years she has adjusted to her mother's absence, the circumstances have surely filled her with silence and a deep void. We cannot deny that it hurts very much to lose someone, but the attitude shown by the poet at the end is not the right way to live your life. Life will keep going on even if we stop to lament our loss.
- Loss is universal. It is the law of nature. We cannot let ourselves get depressed because of this. It is also understandable that we grieve. However, grieving to the point of hampering the normal functioning of our lives is not acceptable.

15. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words.

- (i) Vikram Seth, the poet of the poem has satirized the Kingship in compliance with the concept of justice. We as people always wish justice to be served by the one in power. However, the crime should be assessed wisely to pass the judgment. The arch that was built by the King's decree could have been altered by making the desired corrections in the measurement. The king however chose to punish those who were held responsible for the work. This led to a series of blames passed on one another, yet, the catastrophe occurred when the blame was passed on the King and although he sought the advice of the wisest man in the country, it did not serve him any good. The just and placid king was hanged by his own judgment of the crime. The poet has depicted the various unmindful judgments that are often served by those in power through this poem. The king's decision to punish someone immediately was certainly not a just decision to make even if he himself bore the consequences of his justice. The poem states that justice shouldn't be served when you're consumed with anger instead it should be the result of a thoughtful assessment.
- (ii) Mother's Day is a comical satire. The story is a simple one, yet it strongly condemns the position of women in society. Our mothers and wives work hard daily, turning our houses into homes. They do not receive any wages for their work, nor do they get the weekends to themselves. They work all day long tirelessly, satisfying everyone's needs and demands round the clock. Little do we realize the hard work they put in to make it all perfect. We take them for granted and never



appreciate them or stop by to drop a word of 'thanks'. The story very clearly states that our mothers and wives have equal right to relax, enjoy their lives, and deserve acknowledgement and appreciation for their work. They sacrifice their whole lives building ours. Husbands stay busy at work and kids are occupied in their own lives. Amidst all these, women lose themselves trying to contain our world.

